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(54) Glove or mitten

(57) A glove or mitten has a liquid-absorbent exterior and a substantially liquid-proof lining, for household and personal use. The exterior may comprise textile fabric, natural or synthetic sponge or cellulosic material, and the lining may be a coating or surface on the interior of the absorbent exterior. Preferably, it is intended for disposal after use and is made from absorbent cellulosic fibres in the form of a plurality of laminae, the innermost layer bearing a liquid-proof lining.

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## SPECIFICATION

## Glove or mitten

5 This invention relates to a glove or mitten. According to the invention there is provided a glove or mitten having a liquid-absorbent exterior and a substantially liquid-proof lining.

The absorbent exterior of the glove or mitten may be made of any suitable absorbent materials such as textile fabric, e.g. terry, natural or synthetic sponge, e.g. resilient plastics material, or of absorbent paper or other absorbent cellulosic material.

The waterproof lining may be in the form of a coating or surface, e.g. of wax or plastics, on the interior of the material of which the absorbent exterior is composed or may be formed from liquid-proof material such as sheets of, e.g. waxed paper or plastics.

20 In a preferred embodiment the glove or mitten is intended to be disposable after use and, in such a case, is preferably made of absorbent cellulosic fibres in the form of a plurality of laminae, the innermost layer bearing an interior water-resistant lining.

The glove or mitt is preferably so shaped that it can be used upon either hand. Of course, for particular applications the glove or mitt can be handed to suit the user's preference.

30 From the point of view of hygiene it may be advantageous to be able to turn a mitt inside out after it has been used; it can readily be adapted to this end, e.g. by providing a tag or loop at the far end of the interior of the glove or mitt which can be gripped by one or more fingers of a hand inserted in the mitten.

The cuff of the glove or mitten may be elasticated in order to facilitate retention of the glove or mitt upon the wearer's hand.

40 The glove or mitten may be provided with an innermost liner of absorbent or semi-absorbent material to be located in use next to the skin. This will improve the 'feel' of the interior of the glove or mitten over that of an unlined waterproof interior and will serve to absorb any perspiration from the hand of the wearer.

45 That portion of the glove or mitten between the palm and the thumb may be shaped as a relatively large radius curve, e.g. one comparable to the radius of curvature of a child's neck or chin, in order that that portion of the glove or mitten may more readily be used to wipe such a curved surface.

In manufacturing the glove or mitten according to the present invention, any suitable manufacturing technique may be employed. In the case of thermoplastic materials, heat-sealing may be used to join two suitable laminar portions (or one folded laminar portion) at the edges thereof. A gluing technique may be employed or the glove or mitten may

60 actually be formed by a dipping or moulding operation. Preferably, however, the technology employed in the manufacture of babies' disposable napkins is utilised. Indeed the materials and methods of that technology are admirably suited for use in the manufacture of a glove or mitten according to the

present invention.

70 The glove or mitten of this invention can provide a cheap, disposable, convenient and hygienic article which should, for example, appeal to housewives everywhere.

## CLAIMS

1. A glove or mitten having a liquid-absorbent exterior and a substantially liquid-proof lining.

2. A glove or mitten according to claim 1, wherein the exterior comprises textile fabric, natural or synthetic sponge or cellulosic material.

3. A glove or mitten according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the lining is a coating or surface on the interior of the absorbent exterior.

4. A glove or mitten according to claim 3, wherein the lining comprises wax or plastics material.

5. A glove or mitten according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the lining is formed from waxed paper or plastics material.

6. A glove or mitten according to any preceding claim which is intended for disposal after use and is made from absorbent cellulosic fibres in the form of a plurality of laminae, the innermost layer bearing a liquid-proof lining.

7. A glove or mitten according to any preceding claim, which is adapted for use upon either hand of a user.

8. A glove or mitten according to any preceding claim, which is adapted to be turned inside out.

9. A glove or mitten according to claim 8, wherein a tag or loop is provided therewithin whereby the glove or mitten may be turned inside out.

10. A glove or mitten according to any preceding claim, which is provided with an elasticated cuff.

11. A glove or mitten according to any preceding claim, further provided with a semi-absorbent innermost surface.

12. A glove or mitten according to any preceding claim, provided with a thumb and with a palm portion, that portion of the glove or mitten between the thumb and the palm portion being shaped as a relatively large radius curve, comparable to the radius of curvature of a child's neck or chin.

13. A glove or mitten substantially as hereinbefore described.

14. A method of producing the glove or mitten defined in claim 1 which utilises the technology employed in the manufacture of babies' disposable napkins or diapers.

15. A method of producing the glove or mitten defined in claim 1, substantially as hereinbefore described.

16. The features hereinbefore disclosed, or their equivalent, in any novel selection.